

“It makes them feel good to know someone still appreciates them for what they’ve done for our country,” McCown said.

One veteran McCown met couldn’t talk because of a tube in his throat. The man’s family lived out of state, so he did not have many visitors. But McCown stopped by the patient’s room regularly to keep him company and talk, even if it was mostly a one-way conversation. The veteran eventually recovered and ended up joining AMVETS so he could take part in some of the organization’s volunteer activities.

“We talk all the time now,” McCown said.

Volunteers provide a huge value to the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System, said Voluntary Service Specialist Pat Moreno.

In addition to individual volunteers, about 25 veteran and non-veteran service organizations regularly provide support and volunteers to assignments such as escorting patients in the medical center, working in the canteen, helping with clerical work, and completing a variety of other duties throughout the medical center.

Moreno said patients really seem to appreciate it when fellow veterans volunteer their time to help out at the medical center because the vets have so much in common.

“The interaction between them is really awesome,” she said.

Anyone interested in volunteering at the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System should contact Pat or Diana at (909) 583-6011 or send an email to llvavolunteers@va.gov.

Upcoming Events

| | |
|-------------|--|
| October 23 | The County of San Bernardino will host a free tourism summit from 2 to 5:30 p.m. at the Lake Arrowhead Resort and Spa. Visit www.californiaoutdoorplayground.com for more information. |
| October 25 | Children are invited to go trick-or-treating at various businesses on Lake Drive in Crestline from 2 to 6 p.m. |
| October 31 | The City of Upland will host a “Scary-A-Faire” from 5 to 8 p.m. in downtown Upland. Enjoy interactive games and take part in the costume contest. Call (909) 931-4281 for event information. |
| November 11 | The City of Fontana will host a Veterans Day celebration at 11 a.m. at the Veterans Resource Center located at 16799 Spring Street. |
| November 18 | The City of Rancho Cucamonga and the Rancho Cucamonga Fire District will offer a CPR class at Fire Station 173 from 6 to 10 p.m. This class includes infant, child and adult CPR techniques. Call (909) 477-2765 to register for the class. It costs \$60 to attend. |
| November 27 | The City of Upland will host the 7th annual Turkey Trot 5k run/walk and 1k kiddie trot at San Antonio Park. Check in starts at 6:30 a.m. Proceeds benefit the Upland High School Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams. Call (909) 931-4280 for information. |
| December 6 | The City of Upland will host its annual Christmas Parade and Holiday Faire starting at 11 a.m. in downtown Upland. Visit www.coopermuseum.org/2014-christmas-parade for more information. |
| December 6 | The City of Rancho Cucamogna will host a Community Yard Sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the RC Family Resource Center. |
| December 6 | The Lewis Family Playhouse in Rancho Cucamonga will host a performance of The Nutcracker at 1 p.m. and again at 7 p.m. Visit www.lewisfamilyplayhouse.com for ticket information. |
| December 6 | The mountain community of Blue Jay will host a parade and festival in the downtown area from 1 to 3 p.m. Blue Jay is located along Highway 189. Arrive early because the highway will be closed during the parade. |
| December 11 | San Bernardino County Second District Supervisor Janice Rutherford will host a Christmas Open House from 5 to 8 p.m at 8575 Haven Avenue in Rancho Cucamonga. Local law enforcement and fire personnel will be on hand for a BBQ cook-off. Guests are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy for donation. Call (909) 387-4833 for more information. |
| December 12 | The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is presenting their Fifth Annual Living Nativity event, “A Celebration of the Birth of Christ” December 12, 13 and 14 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Live shows will run each evening at 6:30, 7:15 and 8:00. Located at 6829 Etiwanda Avenue in Rancho Cucamonga, this free outdoor activity will include, live actors, real animals (petting zoo), community carols, refreshments and an authentic stroll through the town of Bethlehem. |
| December 13 | Fontana Exchange Club will host its annual Christmas Parade at 10 a.m. at Sierra and Arrow in downtown Fontana. The Festival of Winter will follow from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Miller Park. Enjoy food, crafts, entertainment, carnival games and snowplay!! |

Dates and times are subject to change without notice. Please contact Supervisor Rutherford’s office at (909) 387-4833 if you have any questions or suggestions for the Events Calendar. You can view information about more local events on Supervisor Rutherford’s home page at www.sbcounty.gov/rutherford.

THE RUTHERFORD Report

THE NEWSLETTER OF SECOND DISTRICT SUPERVISOR JANICE RUTHERFORD

Fall 2014



Sweeps Luck Chimney Service continues to grow 32 years after it was founded in Lake Arrowhead by Gil Calkins, whose sons now own and operate the business.

Keep your face always
toward the sunshine
and shadows will
always fall behind you.

—Walt Whitman

Still Sweeping Up Business After 32 Years

Back in 1982, Gil Calkins passed on a full college scholarship so he could follow his entrepreneurial spirit and start a chimney sweeping business in Lake Arrowhead.

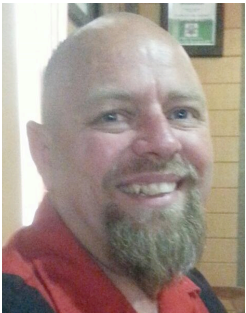
Gil had zero experience sweeping chimneys or working on fireplaces. But he had read a newspaper article that said the industry was heating up, and he certainly wasn’t going to let his dream go up in smoke just because he was unseasoned in the trade.

It didn’t take long before his business—Sweep’s Luck Chimney Service—was thriving in the mountain communities, which didn’t have the essential service locally at the time.

With the help of companies that make chimney cleaning equipment, Gil developed the skills needed to keep his customers’ chimneys in tiptop shape, and as a bonus, he

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Local Vet Volunteers at Loma Linda VA



When Jimmy McCown got out of the Army in 2002, he went to the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System for his medical needs.

The 41-year-old Arrowbear resident discovered there were many volunteers helping veterans being treated at the medical center, and he decided he wanted to join their ranks

so he could give back to his fellow veterans.

McCown had been helped by a volunteer working through American Veterans, better known as AMVETS, so he joined the organization and offered his services.

Today, McCown is one of a battalion of more than 1,300 volunteers supporting the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System, Veteran Centers, Community Based Outpatient Clinics and the Riverside National Cemetery.

Using resources provided by AMVETS, McCown hands out coffee and snacks to patients, organizes special events such as barbeques for veterans receiving long-term care in the Community Living Center, and he provides them with information about veterans resources.

And, perhaps most important of all, he takes the time to speak with and get to know the veterans being treated at the facility.

LOMA LINDA VA, PAGE 4

County Surveyor: Where to Draw the Line

When professional land surveyors need to know where to draw the line, they start with the County Surveyor’s office.

An arm of the Department of Public Works, the County Surveyor maintains a comprehensive compendium of historical land survey documents dating back to the when the County of San Bernardino was formed. Professional land surveyors, engineers, and members of the public access the records regularly to determine official property boundaries, rights-of-way and other land information.

The California constitution and statute law require counties to have a county surveyor. Originally, all county surveyors were elected, but today only El Dorado County maintains the post as an elected position. The last elected county surveyor in San Bernardino County was Jacob ‘Bud’ Abbey who served in the position from 1955 until his retirement in 1971.

Early surveyors divided up California using three principal meridians. These initial meridians, which were established by the United States Surveyor General, gave surveyors a framework by which to subdivide land.

The San Bernardino meridian played the primary role in the subdivision of San Bernardino County and, in fact, most all of Southern California. It is based on a survey marker, set atop San Bernardino Peak just east of

, called the San Bernardino Initial Point. Base Line Road, Base Line Street, or Base Line (depending on where you are in the valley) are all named for the San Bernardino Baseline that intersects with the San Bernardino Meridian at this Initial Point.

The first county surveyors were tasked with collecting and providing detailed information about the land and resources within their respective counties to the California Office of the Surveyor-General, which was eliminated by statute in 1929. Among other things, county surveyors were required to estimate the quantity of land available for agricultural purposes; the number of horses, cattle, sheep and swine, and the quantity and value of minerals produced in their counties.

Today, the County Surveyor’s office provides land survey services for County Departments to facilitate the construction of new buildings, roads, bridges, flood control channels, and other public infrastructure. The office also reviews and approves subdivision maps, records of survey, lot line adjustments, district boundaries, and consults with private and public firms on other land surveying matters.

The County Surveyor’s office also maintains a free online database of recorded maps, corner records, and other land-related documents.

Secondary Drowning Awareness Saves Lives

We as parents know we must be vigilant anytime our children are around water, but did you know a child could die from what’s sometimes called secondary drowning hours or even days after being in the water? I wasn’t aware of it until I read about it on a friend’s Facebook page.

Secondary drowning doesn’t happen very often, but when it does, it’s critical for the victim to receive professional medical attention.

Secondary drowning occurs when a person aspirates (breaths in) water into their lungs and the victim cannot expel the water through coughing. It usually occurs following a near drowning incident. As little as a few ounces of water left in the lungs of a young child can trigger a physiological chain reaction where the lungs fill with fluid and become unable to transfer oxygen to the blood stream, leading to organ failure and eventually death.

Children who have inhaled water into their lungs may not show any serious symptoms right away. They may be able

to walk and talk normally, only to fall seriously ill much later. A child experiencing symptoms such as chest tightness, difficulty breathing, raspy voice, wheezing, or a persistent coughing that’s not associated with some other causes such as a cold after being in the water should be seen by a doctor. If left untreated, a child suffering from secondary drowning will become lethargic and confused as the brain is starved of oxygen.

“If there is an issue where a patient has a problem and nearly drowns, keep your attention up and make sure they aren’t showing any symptoms,” said. Dr. Webster Wong, who heads the Pediatrics Department at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. “I would never hold it against a parent who comes into the hospital and says, ‘There’s something wrong with my child, and I can’t assess it.’”

Dr. Wong emphasized that secondary drowning is not common, but he said parents should be aware of the symptoms of secondary drowning.

SWEEP, PAGE 1

donned a top hat and coat with tails like the chimney sweeps of yore while scrubbing soot from smokestacks.

Years later, as regulations and other technical requirements became bigger and bigger parts of the business, Gil decided it was time to dust off his hat and retire.

“He just couldn’t handle it anymore,” his son, Nolan, said. “He’s old school.”

Gil and his wife, Judee, bought a home in Virginia and found investors to take over the business, but the massive Old Fire in 2003 nearly doused their retirement plans.

The investors Gil had lined up backed out. They feared the fire, which burned more than 91,000 acres and destroyed nearly 1,000 homes, would ruin the mountain economy and tank the chimney sweep business.

Nolan was living the dream life of many 25-year-olds in San Diego when his brother, Nathan, called him up and proposed taking over their father’s business.

“We just kind of went into it on a whim,” Nolan said.

Besides a phone number and a box full of papers, including some old tax returns, Nolan and his brother got a truck and chimney sweeping equipment to get started.

“My brother and I looked at each other and said, ‘Man, we’ve got a lot of work to do,’” he said.

The two brothers got busy learning the trade and figuring out ways to bring Sweep’s Luck Chimney Sweep into the 21st century and to expand their customer base.

They bought more service trucks and equipment, hired more technicians, became nationally certified, earned a state contractor license, created a paperless record system and developed a website.

Later on, they added air duct cleaning to their list of services and became official distributors of a chimney restoration product called Thermocrete.

In 2011, they purchased Buck Energy Center, a fireplace and stove company their grandfather, Fred Webster, started in 1983 in Rim Forest. The business—now called Buck Energy Fireplaces—sells and installs fireplaces, inserts, BBQs, patio heaters, gas logs and other accessories.

They expanded their services again in 2012 with the purchase of All Star Window Cleaning, which offers pressure washing, gutter and roof cleaning services.

A longtime family friend started a Sweep’s Luck Chimney Service that operates in San Diego County, Temecula and Orange County, and the Calkins brothers have also opened an office in Big Bear and soon will be able to service the Inland Empire full time from Yucaipa to Rancho Cucamonga.

Find out more about this Second District business by visiting their website at <http://sweepsluck.net>.

If you know a Second District business with an interesting story to tell, let us know by sending an email to Supervisor.Rutherford@sbcounty.gov or calling (909) 387-4839.

2nd District Trivia

Last Issue’s Answer: Sheriff Frank Bland was the longest serving Sheriff in San Bernardino County. He was elected seven times and served 28 years as Sheriff.

Question: San Bernardino County is the largest county in California and the continental U.S. in terms of land mass, but what’s the smallest county by size in California?

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